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LIFE AND LIGHT

FOR

WOMAN.

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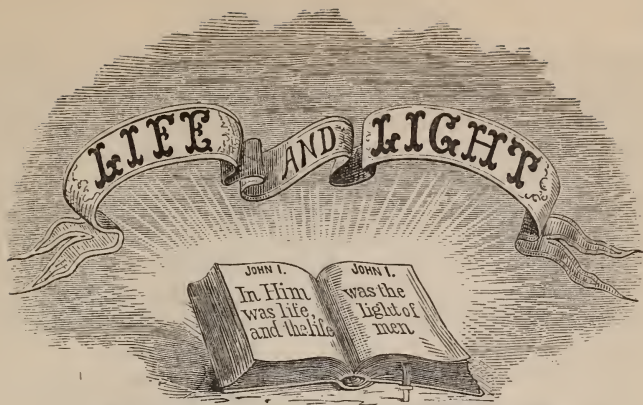
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FOR WOMAN.

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INDIA.

CHRISTIANITY IN INDIA.

BY MRS. M. B. NORTON.

INDIA is the strongest fortress of the unevangelized world. The highest mountain-chain on the globe stretches along its northern border, through which two narrow passes afford ingress to its territory. From the eastern, almost round to the western limits of this chain, dropping southward through many degrees of latitude, sweeps its vast shore-line, cut by currents of great rivers, and affording facilities for a commerce almost limitless. In area nearly equal to Europe, with many states and kingdoms, some of which compare with France, Austria, Italy, and Great Britain; with a population seven times greater than that of the United States; with a climate offering all varieties of temperature, from the snowy peaks of towering Himalayas on the north to the fierce heats and tropical splendors of its southern latitudes; a country whose "barbaric pearl and gold" have tempted the cupidity of the world for ages; peopled by a branch of our own Aryan stock, holding the germs of all our civilization; with a highly organized society, and a system of philosophy reaching maturity two thousand years before the earliest missionaries were sent to our rude

Saxon ancestors; the birthplace of religions which have held in bondage for centuries more than half the human family; the home of half a hundred races and as many languages, united by a common bond of reverence for their ancient tongue, the Sanskrit, which is held by the greatest European scholars to be the one perfect language; with society under the iron bands of an inflexible caste system, and the unutterable curse of the most fearful idolatry, and over all a superimposed Mohammedan tyranny wielding a flaming sword at every gateway for eight centuries, — what weapons save those of Omnipotence may cope with heathenism thus entrenched?

Thank God! there is a divine potency in the gospel, which may laugh to scorn the proud bulwarks of human reason, the hoary systems of human philosophy. Christianity is taking her seat in India on a throne more beautiful and more enduring than those of Mogul or Saxon, fabulous as these have been in wealth and power.

A late "Blue Book," or official report to the British parliament, gives verified statistics, showing nearly eighty thousand communicants in Christian churches in India, and three hundred and twenty thousand in Christian communities, and gives the highest possible indorsement of the missionaries, and the effects of their teaching.

Sir Bartle Frere, late governor-general of Bombay, in a recent work on missions, says, "Every thing in India is in a state of revolution, peaceable as yet, but more general, more complete, and more rapid, than that which is going on in Europe.

"In every one of the great divisions of the empire there have appeared phenomena connected with the growth of missions, which are peculiar or exceptional, either from their character or magnitude."

Speaking of the effect of the general cheap circulation of the Bible and other Christian literature, he says, "In one instance, which I know was carefully investigated, all the inhabitants of a remote village in the Deccan had abjured idolatry and caste, removed from their temples the idols which had been worshipped there time out of mind, and agreed to profess a form of Christianity which they had deduced for themselves from a careful perusal of a single gospel and a few tracts. These books had been casually left with some clothes and other cast-off property, by a merchant, whose name even had been forgotten, and who, as far as could be ascertained, had never spoken of Christianity to his

servant, to whom he gave, at parting, these things, with others of which he had then no further need."

Another striking instance of the arresting power of the Holy Scriptures has been told. A young king was, by the fortunes of war, placed under English guardianship. A young Hindu — not a Christian, but educated in a mission school — was given to him for a companion. The king, one night, could not sleep, and desired his attendant to read to him. The Hindu books were brought; but the puerile and superstitious observances and maxims did not satisfy him. He asked for something else. "Here are the Christian sacred books," said his companion. So the Bible was read. The king listened, was interested, convinced, came under the instruction of American missionaries, and finally became a Christian. The accompanying copy of a photograph of this first royal convert in India is said not to do justice to his regular features, dark lustrous eyes, and soft olive complexion. His royal robes are those he wore on the occasion of his baptism. Showing slightly at the breast is his vest of cloth-of-gold. The loose tunic is of yellow satin, bordered with gold embroidery; and a costly cashmere shawl encircles the waist. The hilt of the state sword he holds in his hand is studded with jewels; while pearls of priceless value, "the heirlooms of many generations," encircle his neck; and his turban of fine India muslin, which was laid aside in humility for the holy ordinance of baptism, is heavily adorned with diamonds, pearls, and precious stones. The Koh-i-noor diamond, so famous as the largest in the world, belonged to his father, and was sent as a present to Queen Victoria.

Thirty-eight years ago that father, the "King of Kings," Runjeet Singh, lay dead in a city of Northern India. Though unable to read or write his own name, and never knowing one figure from another, he had, by remarkable military talents and administrative ability, become leader of the Sikhs, a martial sect, and king of the Punjab, the fan-shaped country of the five rivers uniting to form the Indus. He was the greatest force with which the English had to measure swords in the maintenance of their Indian possessions, and was known as the "Lion of the Punjab."

The funeral pile of this king was composed of a great quantity of sandal-wood. The melancholy funeral procession set forth from the palace early in the morning. First came the body of the late king, wrapped in cashmere shawls; following were his four queens in open palanquins, his seven other wives, barefooted and



MAHARAJA DULEEP SINGH.

on foot, and an immense concourse of official and other witnesses. The remains were deposited on the funeral pile, the queens seated at the head, and the other wives at the feet. The chief widow called the son and the prime-minister of the kingdom to her side, laid the hand of each for a moment in that of the dead monarch, while they swore to be faithful. Then a strong thick mat was thrown over the corpse and the eleven widows. Oil was poured over it, and the torch applied. A moment of dreadful expectation, and the flames leaped up, enveloping the whole. "In fifteen minutes," it is said on the authority of an eye-witness, "nothing remained of the eleven beautiful women but a heap of bones and ashes." Details are given of the splendor of all the ceremonies, which are said to have been among the most extravagant ever witnessed in India, and to have cost several millions of rupees.

At the death of his father, this son, Maharaja Duleep Singh, was four years old. He was in his sixteenth year when arrested by the Holy Spirit, through the reading of the Bible, and eighteen years of age when he received baptism, and became a member of the Christian Church. In his own royal city, and at the American mission station where he had learned Christ, he immediately established societies for the relief of the poor, and now supports missions and village schools, and gives every year, for these and other benevolent objects, at least one-tenth of his princely income. On his travels, not long after he became a Christian, he visited Egypt. Attending there an examination of a mission school, he was much interested in one of the pupils, — a young lady, whom he afterwards married. Gratitude for this Christian wife has led him to give largely to mission schools in Egypt; and every year, on the anniversary of his marriage, he gives five thousand dollars to the school where she was educated. He has thus bestowed upon it fifty-five thousand dollars during the last eleven years.

On the breaking-out of the Sepoy rebellion in India, he exchanged his native country for a residence in England. He lives in a magnificent home near London; and the income suited to his rank is paid him by the British Government, which rules his former possessions in India. He has done much for London, and is a vice-president of the Bible Society. That society, of course, is a special object of his grateful charities; for to the Bible he owes all.

May the day be hastened when every king shall bow to Him who is Lord of lords, and the whole earth be filled with his glory!

JAPAN.

"ROMANCE OF MISSIONS."

WE are permitted to make the following extract from a private letter from one of our missionaries in Japan.

"We have had quite a romance in the mission among the Japanese, that I must tell you a little of, the parties are so interesting. There is a young Japanese girl connected with one of the mission schools, as pupil and as teacher for one of the missionaries: she has been there some time, and has developed into a sweet Christian girl. She is not pretty, but bright, and so gentle and lovable that we are all especially attached to her. She was permitted by her parents to come to the school, because she was thought too old and too unattractive to marry (her age is nineteen, I believe). As she was of a studious mind, they thought she might as well study if she wanted to; but her younger sisters were the ones upon whom the family influence was to be brought to bear to secure a 'good match,' as anxious mammas say at home.

"A young gentleman of our city, occupying a high position, met her at the school, and, being attracted, followed her to her home during the next vacation. His advances were encouraged by the parents, as he is quite an eligible person; and they engaged their daughter to him. He is handsome, very refined, intelligent, and finely educated. He has studied English from a child, so that he speaks it with great facility; and I can talk with him almost as freely as with our own people. He wears foreign clothes, and has so much of a foreign air, that you would easily take him for an American. But he was a man of no religious principle. As I have written you, the more intelligent men do not believe in any of the forms of idolatry; and he was just drifting towards scepticism or infidelity.

"The daughter was pleased with him, and, for the time, forgot her obligation to Christ, and made no objections to the engagement. But, when she returned to the school, the missionary set the matter before her in its true light, and she saw that she could not consistently marry an unbeliever. She wrote home, expressing the desire that the engagement be broken, and also wrote to the young man, declining to marry him, and giving her reasons. Her parents were greatly incensed; and the mother started at once for the school to take her refractory daughter home to mend the broken contract. To her astonishment and rage, the daughter refused to go with her. Obedience and reverence to parents is the

first commandment in the Japanese Decalogue; and an absolute refusal was beyond the mother's calculations. The girl was advised to go, but exhorted to remain firm in not giving her promise to marry an unbeliever.

"So they went to see the young man, who, in a manly way, refused to take the young lady on compulsion: if she could not come willingly, he did not want her to come at all. He said, also, if her objections were so strong because he did not believe in Christianity, he would inquire further into it: he would study it faithfully, and, if he could receive it, he would do so. He is faithful to his promise. He comes to the chapel twice a day on Sunday from the other side of the city: he goes to the missionary's house every day to study the Bible, and it is taking hold of his heart. He is too shining a mark not to be shot at by opposers, and he is already beginning to feel the darts of scorn and contempt. His friends are forsaking him; but this is just the discipline which will bring him to the point of forsaking all for Christ. What he undertook to please his promised wife is likely to result in the salvation of his own soul. He certainly is deeply in earnest now.

"It is thought best, as the wedding was fixed by the parents for next month, that the ceremony should take place: so we shall soon have them settled in our city. It will be a great pleasure to me; for I love the girl already, and she will be a valuable Christian helper. We have laughed at our friend about coming to Japan to superintend match-making; but she is equal to that, as she is to any thing else she is called upon to do. This is truly 'romance of missions,' isn't it?"

A more recent letter says that the young man has become a humble Christian. In a letter thanking the missionary for advising him to study the Bible, he says, "I knew nothing about Christianity; but, the more I saw that the girl was a Christian, the more I loved her."

TURKEY.

LETTER FROM MISS PROCTOR.

[While our interest centres around the larger places in our mission stations, we are apt to forget the pioneer work which is going on in the out-stations, preparing the way for the free entrance of the gospel. The following letter from Miss Proctor gives a good idea of this important adjunct to the general work.]

. . . LAST summer Miss Pierce and I spent three weeks in the mountains west of Aintab. How we enjoyed the green fields,

the wealth of wild flowers, the grandeur of the mountains, the noble old forest trees, and the rushing streams—save only the fording of them. It was such a contrast to the barren, rolling hills around this city with their white limestone soil. Here and there we passed little villages, or hamlets, or sometimes solitary houses, scattered among the fields. How often we repeated the words, “And only man is vile!”

In several of the larger villages, spasmodic efforts to preach the gospel have been made for fifteen or sixteen years. But, whenever a call for retrenchment has been made, these poor villages have been the first to suffer. The Turks have a laconic proverb, “If looked after, a vineyard is not a waste.” It was sad to see so many of these little vineyards gone to waste, and to hear our poor brothers and sisters plead for some one to preach the gospel to them.

At Harné we found twenty men and five women, nominally Protestant, with no school, no preacher. They meet every sabbath morning for the study of the International Sabbath School Lesson, and again in the afternoon for a prayer-meeting. No Christian woman has every labored there. Hence so few women have been brought to the truth. The sabbath we were there, some fifty came to the woman’s meeting. The next morning I spent an hour in conversation with one of the two female church-members.

“Every preacher sent here is an unmarried man,” she said, “and I cannot talk freely with them. Now you have come, and I am going to pour out my troubles and temptations before you. When I united with the church, I felt there was a work of the Spirit in my heart; all my feelings were new; my heart was full of love, and I was very zealous in making known the word, and in trying to bring others to the truth. As long as my husband lived, he was a help to me; and when he died, and left me with four young children, I tried to bring them up in the fear of God. I have always had family prayers with them. When they began to be of marriageable age, my trials began in earnest.”

It would be too long to repeat the story of temptations in this respect. She succeeded in marrying her daughter to a Protestant; but, as all the women in that large family are still members of the old church, the young bride is not yet suffered to attend our sabbath services. Her two grown-up sons are still unmarried, although they could make good connections very easily if they would only go back to the old church. Poor sheep without a shepherd! And

still the order from home is, "Draw in your men from the smaller places, and prepare for retrenchment." What a waste to sow the seed, and leave it uncared for to the fowls of the air!

We found the Keller teacher at Hassam Beyli, and took him with us to nearly all the villages we visited, as he knew the roads and the people. One day we went up to Kishnez, and spent the day under some trees talking with all who came to see us. There are no Protestants there, and three years ago the people seemed afraid of us. This time they were quite cordial, and listened with much attention to the reading of the Bible. We found two or three boys who could read, and one who was very anxious to purchase a Testament. As he had no money, he brought a fowl to the teacher, who gave him a Testament in exchange. Miss Pierce, not being able to talk with the people very freely, amused herself a part of the time by reading a story of German life. After we had read a long time from the Testament, one of the women insisted on her reading aloud from that book; then the sentence must be translated; at last she exclaimed, "How am I to know what to believe when one of you brings me one book and the other a different one?" In vain we told her that was not the Bible, it was only a story. It was a *book* to her. We are often reminded here of the original meaning of the word "Bible." A man who was listening began to explain, with the air of one who understood matters, that there were many books in the world, say *fifty*, but only one Book of God.

A young man from Keller accompanied us to Aintab as muleteer. He is very anxious to come to the college, and has been studying the past winter for that purpose. His mind is quick, and he seems to have felt the power of the gospel in his heart. I saw a marked change and growth in him since three years ago, when he used to crouch on the outside of the circle, listening at all our meetings for the women. He sat inside now, and I called upon him to lead in prayer, which he did as one in the habit of frequenting the mercy-seat. One day he broke out with, —

"There are two things that seem very wonderful to me. One is that some who preach the gospel to others will themselves be cast away. The other is that some poor creatures are born into the world to live in poverty and suffering and wretchedness all their lives, never seeing a happy day, and die at last full of ignorance and sin, with no hope of happiness hereafter."

The question of all the ages over again! And yet it almost took

away my breath to hear it from him. To live in his home had seemed wretchedness enough to me ; yet he spoke not of any lack of happiness in his own life, but of a class far below his own, who were accustomed to come to his door, as to that of a rich neighbor, for a pittance of bread or a few cast-off garments. Our other two muleteers were Christian men from Hassan Beyli, a fact in itself sufficient to remind one of the millennium (see Zech. xiv. 20), as muleteers of all sects are a godless set generally. Two of them made constant use of the name of God in driving their animals, calling out. "Ya, Allah !" as they put on the stick or gave the loads a lift. I took occasion to talk with them about the impropriety of doing so, and found that the third one had received this lesson from Mariam Boghosyan, one of our pupils who taught two years in Hassan Beyli. I was interested to see in how many ways she had influenced this young man for good.

On our return we stopped at Baghlama, a farming district on the plain, six miles from Aibez. We held a short service with the people, and talked about their providing for the education of their children. Twelve persons had been examined for admission to the church, eight of whom would probably be received. One of the young men had been of a party that, within a year, had shot and eaten a heifer belonging to another man. He was in much perplexity as to how he could make restitution. He is anxious to pay his share of the damages ; but the rest of the party threaten to deny all, so far as they are concerned, if he lets out the secret. In that case, the fine demanded would probably be more than all the young man is worth. The preacher asked if, under the circumstances, it would not do to say, "Let him that stole steal no more."

If, after the manner of our native preachers, I were to add a "few reflections," I should say, 1. The churches waste a great deal of money on road-expenses — that is, in sending a man to commence a work, and taking him away just as it is well started. *Retrenchment is very expensive.* 2. The best way to secure any thing like self-support in these poor villages, is to give them something worth supporting. 3. Our native helpers who work in these villages are entitled to our truest sympathy and our earnest prayers.

How shall they hear without a preacher?

Our Work at Home.

WORK FOR THE YEAR.

THE Woman's Board is just about to enter upon the tenth year of its existence. As we gratefully recall the past with its many blessings, we feel strong in the hope that our first decade will be rounded out by a year of thorough earnest labor, bringing about greater results than ever before, both at home and abroad. While there may be reverses, trials, and perplexities among those who are battling for our cause in the field, yet our greatest anxiety is, lest the re-enforcements and supplies dependent on us to forward may not be equal to the demand. We wish, therefore, to place before you, dear friends, what is expected of us for 1877, asking you to receive the request for your time, your strength, your money, perhaps for yourself, as if made to each one of you personally. We cannot call you all by name; but the Elder Brother can and does, asking you to do something, however small, for these his distant "little ones."

In answer to the prayers of many Christian women, as we doubt not, we are able to report very general enlargement of the foreign work; not so much, perhaps, in the number of schools and missionaries as in the increase of schools already established, and the greater opportunities opening to the missionaries and their native assistants. The details of what is already established in the field, presented to us for support, are as follows: fifty-nine missionaries, eighteen higher schools and seminaries, besides the homes at Constantinople, and among the Dakota Indians, about fifty-eight village and day schools, and fifty-one Bible-readers. In addition to these, there are rents of buildings, repairs, adult instruction, and other incidental expenses, requiring a very considerable sum of money during the year.

For new work, we are asked to provide, first, for a home in Osaka, Japan, at a cost of twenty-five hundred dollars. In this country, where the government and leaders of the people are struggling so nobly for the benefits of Western civilization; where, instead of paid catechists and Bible-readers, the church-members take upon themselves the burden of preaching the gospel every Sunday

in outlying districts; where the most of expenses of churches and schools are cheerfully met by the people themselves; where every effort of the missionaries seems to bring immediate and abundant results, — we surely cannot refuse to establish a Christian home, which shall be a centre of religious influence and culture in this, the second city in size and importance in the empire. The centennial offerings for our Kioto Home (at the time of writing, Nov. 25) still fall several hundred dollars short of the sum asked for at the beginning of the year. We hope the full amount will be received, at least before many weeks of the new year have passed.

We are asked, second, to take preliminary steps for a home for the lady missionaries in Madura, India. In the present financial depression, it has not been thought wise to go to the expense of a building just at present. It has seemed best, however, to secure, for this purpose, a piece of land adjoining the mission premises, affording a very desirable location, lest it should be bought by other parties. It contains about a hundred thousand feet of land, at a cost of five thousand dollars; and we rejoice to say that our New Hampshire Branch has assumed the whole of this burden. The far-seeing secretary of this branch, having experienced the advantages of many small contributions, proposes that the money shall be raised by giving out the land in small portions, at five cents a foot. Who knows but a foot of land in Madura, owned by some child in New Hampshire, may be the foundation of a grand missionary life?

Another interesting work opening before us is the establishment of a school at Aleppo, in the Central Turkey mission. There seems to be an unusual opportunity for obtaining a foothold among the higher classes in that city; and it is hoped that in time it will correspond to the college for young men at Aintab, paying its own way to a large extent. It is proposed to open such a school some time during the year, utilizing buildings already on the ground for the present; so that the additional expense to the Board will not be more than a thousand dollars. The school will probably be placed under the care of Miss Pierce of Aintab, whose long experience in teaching in this country, and two years' sojourn in Aintab, have admirably fitted her for the position. An associate is asked for from this country, who shall be ready to join her in the autumn. Mr. Adams, missionary of the American Board at Kessab, writes of the undertaking as follows: "Aleppo exerts a greater influence than all other cities of Central Turkey

combined. There is great wealth also, and among its possessors a desire more or less strong to have their daughters educated. I do wish the churches in America would take hold of this enterprise. Every thing is favorable: the field is white."

In addition to these requests, there is a call for new missionaries to supply the places of those disabled from ill health and for enlarging work. One each is needed for Van, Aleppo, and Marsovan in Turkey, a matron for our Constantinople Home, two for Ceylon, two for China, one for Japan, and one for South Africa. Should we be so fortunate as to secure all these during the year, to provide salaries, outfits, and travelling expenses, will require an outlay of at least ten thousand dollars. We must remember, also, to make provision for expenses that we cannot foresee in the foreign field, amounting, some years, to several thousand dollars.

These, then, are the demands from abroad, so far as we know, amounting, in the aggregate, to about seventy thousand dollars, exclusive of the building for the Madura Home, and the endowment for the female department of Armenia College. What have we at home to supply them? We have thirteen branch societies, and seven conference associations, thoroughly organized, and in good running order. Connected with these and the parent society are between eleven and twelve hundred auxiliaries and mission-circles, all more or less efficient. We have a hundred and sixty thousand Christian women in our churches, pledged to obey the commands of our Master, whatever they may be. There is money enough at the control of these women to supply the needed amount three times over. Then why need there be anxiety as to the means and the laborers to carry on the work? Simply because not more than one in seven of these Christian sisters feels any real interest in this labor for women in heathen lands. Though they have promised to obey the commands of their Lord, yet they, strangely enough, seem to ignore the injunction that fell from his lips at the supreme moment when he was about to disappear from mortal sight forever. Though one cent a week from each one of these would fill our treasury to overflowing, yet it is often impossible to obtain even this small sum from the attractive home charities, or the still more enticing home luxuries. We do not mention these things by way of complaint at all, but simply as a plain statement of facts.

It is to reach the other six-sevenths of our church-members as far as possible, that we propose for the home work of the year.

In all the territory under our jurisdiction, with the exception of one county and a few conferences in Massachusetts, we now have efficient organizations, whose officers are laboring nobly, in forming new societies, and nurturing old ones that may be languishing; yet they must be assisted by persistent personal effort, that the work may have true growth. Cannot you, dear friend, who are thoroughly interested, seek out three or four of your acquaintances, and talk with them personally on the subject? Can you not supply them with missionary reading, or induce them to attend the monthly auxiliary meetings, not to criticise, or sit idly and indifferently in their seats, but to contribute something of interest to the meeting? Asking God for wisdom and tact and perseverance, can you not, at least, win *one* friend to the cause? If our working force could thus be doubled during the year, the rate of increase would be all that could be desired.

Another request we have to urge is, that you should make a strong effort to increase the circulation of "Life and Light." If you like it, recommend it heartily and cordially, and secure, if possible, that it be read, as well as paid for. At least, it is a medium of communication with live, earnest Christian women who are bearing the burden of the work both at home and abroad. If you think the missionary letters lack life or variety, do something to send means and laborers to their assistance, that they be not obliged to write when jaded and worn with overwork. If you wish more thrilling incidents, pray unceasingly for the blessing of the Holy Spirit, till these pages shall be all too scant for the story of his wonderful doings. If you think the home articles might be fresher or more suggestive, send us a leaf from your own more interesting experiences. This is emphatically a co-operative work, and we invite the assistance of all. In these times, when all magazines have felt the effect of the financial depression more or less, our circulation has not only held its own, but has slightly increased. Yet, notwithstanding the most careful management, to supply the deficiency caused by unpaid subscriptions of which we now have a thousand on our books, and to meet the running expenses, we need, at least, two thousand additional subscribers. Of "The Well-Spring and Missionary Echoes" we have spoken in a former number; and we trust the little messenger will find its way to many new homes the coming year.

We would like to add a word in regard to our Bureau of Exchange. This department has become a fixed fact the past year;

and, through the management of its efficient head, it has been a marked success. You who have reaped its many benefits the last few months, and we who have been somewhat relieved of that heaviest of burdens,—work that should be done yet remains undone,—need nothing more to convince us of its necessity. But we must confess to a disappointment in one particular,—the lack of original articles from branches and auxiliaries. We are very sure there must have been some valuable papers read in the hundreds of auxiliary meetings during the year, that have not found their way to our drawers. Do not be too modest about them, friends. They have helped your meetings: why should they not help others?

This, then, is the work for the year, rising before us like some beautiful structure which our God has bid us rear,—we in our appointed place, and the missionaries in theirs. We must build blindly sometimes, sometimes wearily; but it may always be surely, if we follow closely the pattern that has been given us, as did Moses in the holy tabernacle of old. We cannot tell just what there may be for each one of us to do,—to lay the foundation in solid wood, to overlay it with pure gold, to make a knop or a flower as best we can; to work on purple and scarlet and fine-twined linen, or, perhaps, to make one of the smallest loops, or to put a tack in its place: whatever we do, let us do it perfectly, as under the eye of the great Master-builder, and for his glory.

NOVEMBER MEETING.

THE last Quarterly Meeting of the Woman's Board was held in Pilgrim Hall, Nov. 7. Though the day was rainy, a goodly number of ladies attended, some of whom had braved the storm for a journey of forty miles in order to be present.

The report of the Home Secretary showed most encouraging progress in the work, both at home and abroad. Mention was made of the Annual Meetings of the Philadelphia, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and New York branches, held during the month of October, as having been occasions of interest and profit.

The financial statement read by the Treasurer showed receipts of about fifty thousand dollars for ten months of the current year. An account of the progress of missionary work in Japan during the last few months was given by Mrs. M. B. Norton, after which

Mrs. Mellen, late of South Africa, addressed the meeting. In answer to the question she had been often asked, "Do missions pay?" Mrs. Mellen gave some interesting details of her experience, showing the great changes that had taken place since the missionaries first went to Africa. In closing, she related an interesting story of a young African girl who was trained up in the mission, and is now doing most useful work as the wife of a native pastor.

The Rev. M. Millengen of Constantinople was introduced, and spoke of the home there, with the workings of which he is acquainted. He congratulated the ladies of the Board on their substantial edifice, on the standard of education and character there set before the pupils, and on the rare adaptation and high qualifications of the ladies sent out by the Board as teachers in that institution, and expressed the belief that there is a noble future before it.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. Millingen, and the Doxology, closed the meeting, which was felt by all present to have been excellent in spirit and interest.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE VERMONT BRANCH.

THE Fourth Annual Meeting of the Vermont Branch was held at St. Johnsbury, Oct. 25. Three hundred ladies were present, and by all the day will long be remembered as a time of uplifting to a higher plane of Christian work. From the morning prayer-meeting, when "Jesus only" was presented as the theme, until the closing exercise of the afternoon, there was a spiritual atmosphere which placed the missionary cause in its true light as Christ's own work, and those engaged in it as co-workers with him.

The opening words of the President, the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer, were inspiring; and at the close of the latter, with glad hearts, all joined in singing,

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow."

Fifty-seven new societies were reported, nine of them mission-circles, giving us now a total of one hundred and forty-six organizations.

The pledges made by the branch had been more than redeemed, over four thousand dollars having been contributed.

The reports of the Vice-Presidents showed the work had been accomplished by the consecration of time, labor, and earnest thought by those who had given themselves to it.

Words of greeting from other societies gave us fresh cheer in our work of winning souls. Mrs. Walker of Auburndale, who had the care of missionary children, in touching words brought the *real* trial of missionary life to every mother's heart, as she spoke of those committed to her care as parents went back to their work in foreign lands.

In the afternoon, addresses were made by Mrs. Morse, formerly a missionary in Turkey, by Mrs. Hazen of India, and by Mrs. Montgomery of Marash. Each spoke of the needs of the women with whom they had labored, in a way which stirred us to make greater efforts in their behalf. Mrs. Norton, of the Woman's Board of Missions, read a most effective paper on organization.

Thus in one short day were we brought into contact with so many whose living words testified that our God ever fulfils his promises, and that "no labor is in vain in the Lord."

E. J. F.

DEATH OF MR. CAPRON.

It is with great pain that we record in these pages the death of Mr. William B. Capron, which occurred at Mana Madura, on the 6th of October last. One of the best and most experienced of the missionaries of the American Board, it seems a mysterious providence that removes him from his work in the prime of life, when his prospects for usefulness were greater than ever before. His warm interest in our Woman's Board, especially in our work among children, during his recent visit to this country, will long be held in grateful remembrance.

We know that we express the feeling of every one of our readers, when we say that our sister has our deepest sympathy in her bereavement. We learn from the letters that brought the sad tidings, that with true heroism, and an unconquerable missionary spirit, she desires to remain, and devote her life to the Hindu women whom she loves so well, following out the plan of going to Madura that was made before her husband's death. Shall she not have our earnest prayers, that strength and courage for the work shall be given her in large measure from on high?

ANNUAL MEETING.

As it has been thought, that, in some cases, the Annual Meeting of the Woman's Board of Mission has interfered with the services

of the Week of Prayer, it was voted at an executive meeting of branch officers, held Jan. 6, 1876, that, as an experiment, it be held this year on the week immediately following the Week of Prayer. The Annual Meeting of the Woman's Board of Mission will, therefore, be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 16 and 17, 1877, in Park-street Church, Boston.

MISS EMMA K. OGDEN, M.D., recently appointed medical missionary of the Woman's Board, sailed from New York, Nov. 4, on her way to Madura, India. The many friends of Mrs. Chandler of the same mission will be glad to know that letters have been received from her, written at Alexandria, Oct. 19. She hoped to be in Bombay about twenty days from that date.

☞ As we have recently experienced trouble with our mails, we wish to request all who send remittances for the treasury, or for "Life and Light," to do so by checks, post-office orders, or in registered letters. Please send promptly, or the year will close with a large deficit.

WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS.

RECEIPTS FROM OCT. 18 TO NOV. 18, 1876.

MRS. BENJAMIN E. BATES, TREASURER.

MAINE.

Maine Branch. — Mrs. Woodbury S. Dana, Treas., Machias, Aux., \$7.40; Miss Carrie Hill, \$10; Auburn, Aux., \$42.25; Norridgewock, Aux., \$18; Bridgton, Aux., \$5; New Gloucester, Aux., \$25; Acton, Cong. Ch., \$10.50; Washington Co. Conf., coll. at Robbinston, \$12.60; Rockland, Aux., \$25, \$140 75
Total, \$145 75

ARMENIA COLLEGE.

Maine Branch. — East Machias, a few ladies, \$18.40; Rockland, Aux., \$25, \$43 40

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

New Ipswich. — Children's Fair, \$1 00
Total, \$1 00

VERMONT.

Vermont Branch. — Mrs. Geo. H. Fox, Treas., Georgia, Aux., \$10.75; Lyndonville, Aux., \$7.90; "Busy Bees," \$2.25; Newport, "Mission Circle,"

\$9.25; Colchester, Aux., \$18.80; Bradford, Aux., \$11.55; Cabot, Aux., \$15; Middlebury, Aux., \$79.55; S. S., \$18.70; "Green Mountain Rills," \$35; Thetford, Aux., \$10; Westford, Aux., \$10; Burlington, College-St. Ch., Aux. (of wh. \$25 to const. L. M. Mrs. Mary B. Safford, \$7.20 by Mrs. H. N. Drury), \$40; Bennington, Aux., \$40; West Glover, Aux., \$9; Vergennes, Aux. (of wh. \$25 to const. L. M. Miss Mary J. Strong), \$50; "Mission Circle," \$23; Barnet, Aux., \$5; Brookfield, 1st Cong. Ch. to const. L. M. Mrs. Geo. B. Tolman, \$25; 2d Cong. Ch., \$17; Orwell, Aux., \$30; Ludlow, Aux., \$25; Rutland, Mrs. Geo. A. Merrill, \$5; Post Mills, Aux., \$15; Chester, Aux., \$23; East Burke, Aux., \$9; St. Johnsbury, No. Ch., a friend, \$5; So. Ch. (of wh. \$25 by Mrs. Henry Fairbanks to const. herself L. M.), \$50; Peacham, Miss Jane E. Chamberlin to const. L. M. Mrs. William R. Shedd of Newbury,

\$25; Fairlee, Mrs. W. H. Kibbey, \$2; Danville, Aux., \$12; Northfield, Aux., \$15.50; Waitsfield, Mrs. Babbitt, \$5; Montpelier, Aux., \$40; "Busy Bees," \$5; "Willing Workers," \$6.50; Cornwall, Aux., \$41,	\$752 34
Manchester. — A friend (of wh. \$5 for Japan, \$2 Dakota),	7 00
Total,	\$759 34

MASSACHUSETTS.

Abington. — Aux.,	\$36 00
Amherst. — 2d Cong. Ch., Aux.,	6 30
Ashby. — Cong Ch.,	2 50
Beverly. — "Centreville Mission-Circle," pupil, Harpoot,	40 00
Boston. — Mrs. J. H. Fiske, \$10; Miss Bessie B. Ely, sixth birthday, \$6; Mrs. S. H. H., \$10; Park-st. Ch., three ladies to const. L. M. Mrs. J. L. Withrow, \$25; Berkeley-st. Ch., ladies, \$6,	57 00
Boston, South. — Phillips Ch., a fr.,	5 00
Boston Highlands. — Eliot Ch., Aux., \$27.50; "Eliot Star Circle," \$224; "Ferguson Circle," \$1.16, Japan Home,	30 90
Boxford. — 1st Parish, Aux., of wh. \$10 Japan Home,	20 00
Brockton. — Aux.,	70 00
Burlington. — Aux.,	20 00
Chelsea. — 1st Ch., Aux.,	20 00
Danvers. — "Maple Leaves," pupil, Dakota,	50 00
East Braintree. — Mrs. H. J. Holbrook,	3 00
East Somerville. — Franklin-st. Ch., Aux.,	10 00
Fitchburg. — Rollstone Ch.,	5 25
Framingham. — "Buds of Promise," pupil at Battalagundu,	30 00
Gloucester. — Aux. of wh. \$25 by a friend to const. L. M. Mrs. F. B. Makepeace,	55 00
Hanover. — Aux., \$2; Mrs. Henry Barstow, \$1,	3 00
Holbrook. — Miss S. J. Holbrook, Japan Home,	25 00
Hyde Park. — Aux.,	10 00
Ipswich. — So. Ch. to const. L. M. Mrs. Marshall B. Angier,	25 00
Lee. — Young Ladies' Mission-Band,	40 00
Lexington. — Aux.,	6 00
Lowell. — Aux.,	4 50
Lunenburg. — Aux.,	6 50
Methuen. — Aux.,	15 00
Newton. — Aux.,	50 00
Newtonville. — Central Cong. Ch.,	26 41
North Leominster. — Aux.,	4 00
No. Weymouth. — Pilgrim Ch., Aux.,	24 00
North Woburn. — Aux.,	25 00
Pigeon Cove. — "Busy Bodies,"	10 00
Quincy. — Aux., pupil, Dakota,	50 00
Salem. — So. Ch., Aux.,	208 00
Saugus. — A friend,	6 00
So. Attleboro'. — Friends of Miss Sears, add'l,	1 00

South Hadley. — Aux. of wh. \$25 to const. L. M. Mrs. Clara E. Greene, \$30; S. S., \$30,	\$60 00
South Wellfleet. — Aux., Japan Home,	28 00
Wareham. — Old Colony Conf. Meeting, Japan Home,	14 50
Wellesley. — Aux. (of wh. \$50 to const. L. M.'s Mrs. Lewis Wight, Miss Lucy Winsor), \$30; pupil Inanda, \$50; Dakota, \$50; Japan, \$45; China, \$225; "Penny Gatherers," \$6,	231 00
West Boylston. — Cong. Ch., to const. L. M. Mrs. Lucy Ann Pierce,	25 00
West Borford. — S. S.,	5 15
Westford. — Cong. Ch. and Soc'y, to const. L. M. Mrs. Helen McG. Hamilton,	25 00
Weymouth (North). — 1st Ch., of wh. \$25 to const. L. M. Miss H. P. Lincoln,	30 00
Winchester. — Aux., of wh. \$25 by Mrs. N. W. C. Holt to const. L. M. Miss Abby J. Cutter,	30 00
Worcester Co. Branch. — Mrs. G. W. Russell, Treas., Clinton, Aux. (of wh. \$25 by Miss Mary Brown to const. herself L. M.), \$131.91; Oxford, Aux., \$12; Athol, Aux., \$61; Whitinsville, Aux. (of wh. \$25 by Mrs. J. C. Whiton to const. herself L. M.), \$100; Fitchburg, Aux., C. C. Ch. (of wh. \$25 by Mrs. F. Bou-telle to const. L. M. Mrs. E. B. Rockwood), \$59.50; North Brookfield, Aux., \$58.45; Mrs. Reed's S. S. Class, \$25; Royal-ton, Aux., \$25; Millbury, 2d Cong. Ch., Aux., \$50; Prince-ton, Aux., \$10,	532 86
Total,	\$1,981 87

RHODE ISLAND.

Rhode Island Branch. — Miss Anna T. White, Treas., Providence. "Little Wilkinsons," \$5; Union Ch. S. S., \$75; Beneficent Ch. (of wh. \$25 by Mr. S. H. Nickerson to const. his wife L. M., \$25 by Mr. G. R. Matteson to const. his wife L. M.), \$205; Charles-st. Ch., \$25; "Earnest Workers," \$21.89; Pilgrim Ch., \$85.63; Gloucester, Aux., \$8; "May-flowers," \$3; North Scituate, Aux., \$25; Little Compton, Aux., \$12; "Elmwood Work-ers," \$27.30; Tiverton, Aux., \$12,	\$505 84
Total,	\$505 84

CONNECTICUT.

Columbia. — Aux.,	\$6 00
Eastern Conn. Branch. — Mrs.	

J. C. Learned, Treas., Norwich, Park-st. Ch., Aux. (of wh. \$5 for Japan Home), \$6; Jewett City, Mrs. Shipman, \$5; Mrs. Fox, \$3; New London, 1st Ch., Aux., \$65,	\$79 00
<i>East Woodstock.</i> — A friend,	25
<i>Greenwich.</i> — 2d Cong. Ch., Aux. of wh. \$30 thank-off. \$46, B. R.,	76 00
<i>Hartford Branch.</i> — Mrs. Charles A. Jewell, Treas., "Dayville Mission-Circle," \$15; Enfield, S. S. Cl., pupil, Harpoot, \$40; Newington, Aux., \$90.75; So. Windsor, Aux. (of wh. \$40 pupil Foochow), \$60; Plainville, Aux., thank-off. by Mrs. Lester Buell, to const. L. M. Mrs. Frank Johnson, \$25; East Granby, Aux., \$10; S. S. Cl., Japan Home, \$10; Simsbury, Aux., \$38; Terryville, Aux., thank-off., \$4; "Willing Workers," \$5; Hartford, Pearl-st., Aux., Mrs. Pliny Jewell, to const. herself L. M., \$25; a friend, to const. L. M. Miss Helen Gage, \$25; add'l offerings, Asylum Hill Ch., \$110; Centre Ch., \$15; Pearl-st. Ch., \$5; South Ch., \$5; widow's mite, \$5,	487 75
<i>Hartford.</i> — Mrs. E. C. Stone, Japan Home,	5 00
<i>New Haven Branch.</i> — Miss Julia Twining, Treas., New Haven, Mrs. E. H. Blake, \$50; Ansonia, \$30; Bethlehem, \$10; Bridgeport (of wh. \$75 fr. Mrs. Sherman Hartwell, Mrs. Dan'l Sterling, and Miss Bertha Sterling, to const. themselves L. M.'s), \$300; Colebrook, "Laurel Leaves," \$20; Haddam, \$10; Milton, \$16; New Britain, So. Ch., \$75; New Haven, Ch. of the Redeemer (of wh. \$25 fr. Mrs. H. B. Bigelow to const. L. M. Mrs. R. H. Lewis), \$50.80; Davenport, Ch. and S. S., to support Zaring, or B. R., \$60; Norfolk, "Home Jewels," \$5; "Mountain Wide Awakes," \$5; Roxbury, to const. L. M.'s Mrs. H. E. Bradley and Mrs. D. E. Jones, \$50; Salisbury (of wh. \$25 to const. L. M. Mrs. Mary E. Jewell), \$51.25; Saybrook, \$5.87; Torrington, \$12; West Haven, Oak Hill Sem., for scholarship at Ahmednuggar, \$30; Wilton, with prev. contrib. to const. L. M. Mrs. Sam. J. M. Merwin, \$15,	795 92
Total,	\$1,449 92
<i>Armenia College.</i>	
<i>Greenwich.</i> — 2d Ch., Aux.,	\$50 00

NEW YORK.	
<i>Brooklyn.</i> — A friend,	\$2 00
<i>Westmoreland.</i> — A friend, Japan Home,	1 00
Total,	\$3 00

<i>Armenia College.</i>	
<i>New York State Branch.</i> — Miss Myra Fritcher, Treas., Antwerp, Aux.,	\$25 00

PENNSYLVANIA.	
<i>Philadelphia Branch.</i> — Mrs. A. W. Goodell, Treas., Baltimore, Md., Aux., \$33; "Bees," \$75; Jersey City, 1st Cong. Ch., Aux., \$39.60; Middletown, N. Y., \$10; Orange, N.J., \$33; "Buds," \$10; Stanley, N.J., \$13; Montclair, N.J., Aux., \$50; A friend, \$30; Newark, N.J., Belleville-ave. Ch., \$8; "Mission Band," \$11.16; East Orange, Aux., \$17; coll. at Annual Meeting, \$16.15; \$344.91 (of wh. \$13 for exp. at ann. meeting), leaving a bal. of	\$331 91
Total,	\$331 91

OHIO.	
<i>Berlin Heights.</i> — Aux., Japan Home,	\$25 00
<i>Windham.</i> — Young Ladies' Miss. Band,	100 00
Total,	\$125 00

ILLINOIS.	
<i>Belvidere.</i> — Mrs. L. A. Thompson,	\$2 00
Total,	\$2 00

IOWA.	
<i>Grinnell.</i> — "Sincera,"	\$20 00
Total,	\$20 00

CANADA.	
<i>Canadian Branch.</i> — Miss Wilkes, Treas.,	\$69 90
Total,	\$69 90

FOREIGN LANDS.	
<i>South Africa.</i> — Nellie Tyler,	\$2 70
Total,	\$2 70

General Funds,	\$5,398 23
Fem. Dep. Armenia College,	118 40
"Life and Light,"	275 32
Weekly Pledge,	14 80
Leaflets,	3 55
Total,	\$5,810 30

MISS EMMA CARRUTH, *Asst. Treas.*

ERATUM. — A previous contribution from Brookfield, Vt., should have been \$15 instead of \$12.

Department of the Interior.

TURKEY.

LETTER FROM MISS WEST.

[The following greeting was sent by Miss West to the ladies assembled at our annual meeting in Chicago. As it was crowded out for lack of time, we send it through the "Life and Light" to the many friends who learned to love her during her stay in this country.]

SMYRNA, ASIA MINOR, Oct. 4, 1876.

BELoved MOTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST, — Although absent in body, I am present in spirit, and salute you with all my heart and soul. If I could send a message by the voice of the sea, whose liquid music is now sounding in my ears as it washes up against the shores of the Mediterranean, I would say, "Carry my love and a kiss of holy charity to every one."

My mind pictures such a scene as I witnessed in Elyria, O., last year, when from various towns of the great interior and western part of our wonderful country, noble matrons and blooming maidens, with a few of our *crowned ones*, — the white-haired mothers in Israel, — assembled to report *one more year's work for Jesus*, and consult concerning ways and means for the speedy coming of his kingdom throughout the world. As I listened to the prayers and songs of praise, the reports and discussions, and heard a venerable mother (*so like my own*, now serving in the upper sanctuary) pour out her soul in fervent and eloquent supplication at the throne of grace, my heart now melted, and then *glowed* with gratitude and thanksgiving to God. And as I again and again surveyed that grand spectacle of mothers and maidens, the aged and experienced, the middle-aged, wise to plan, and swift to execute, with generous sympathies, and capacious souls inspired by the love of God; and the young and fresh taking lessons, in the dawn of womanhood, in the noblest of all enterprises, — a church *filled* with such grand specimens of Christian womanhood, — I gloried in my countrywomen.

Nor would you wonder could you see how sadly different are the women of this and other lands where the light has not fully entered. Even in Smyrna, women, ay, *ladies* of refined manners

and elegant attire, who live in fine houses, with many European comforts and Eastern luxuries, — these “ladies,” in most cases, cannot read, or but very imperfectly. They listen as I tell them of my Christian countrywomen, — how they spend their time, how they train their children; and, when I portray such a gathering as you to-day enjoy, their hearts are impressed, and they say, “*We are animals!*” and beg me to teach their daughters to do differently from themselves. And this, with God’s help, I intend to do, — a work that an *angel* might covet. And I come to you, dear friends, with this single petition, *Pray for me*. Pray for a baptism of the Spirit, an “endowment of power” from on high. God only can *convert souls*, and nothing less than this will satisfy my desires. Will you not, then, bear the mothers and daughters of Smyrna on your hearts from day to day in your private devotions? The very *thought* will nerve me with new strength, and thus we will be “workers together.” God has wonderfully opened the hearts of the people to receive me. But you will rejoice with me in the prospect of a blessed work the coming winter. I have now a quiet home in the Armenian quarter, with my good Scotch assistant; and my health is even better than I expected, after the heat of a summer here, and my heart is full of sweet content. God bless you all! I bid you God-speed in your glorious work, and may we all “reap in due season”! Thus prays

Your sister in Christ,

MARIA A. WEST.

INDIA.

LETTER FROM MARTHA OF MANDAPASALAI.

[The following letter was written to the ladies of Hudson, O., who furnish the money to sustain Martha in her work.]

“To the greatly-to-be-praised benevolent ones, the honorable ladies, the humble child Martha, who is by them supported, with great reverence making salaam, writes a letter. If you ask what it is, —

Your all uniting to support me, in gratitude for, concerning myself, my family, and my work, I write: —

My father and his brothers were natives of Tinnevely; but, although they were born there, they, from a very early age in the American mission-schools, studying improved. Of them (i.e., of the brothers) my father obtaining the ordination (or honor)

of a pastor in Mandapasalai, many years under Taylor Iyar (Father Taylor) forwarding the work of God, in 1864 died.

My mother now does Bible-woman's work among the heathen. To me three brothers and three sisters are. Of them one, until this time having done catechist's work in this region, has now gone to Pasumalai to study theology. Another is teacher in this school. Another is studying in the school at Tirupuvanam. Two sisters study in this school. One sister for nine years studying in Madura, now north of Madura in the village of Sendalappetti, is. (She is a preacher's wife.)

I, from my early years, being under the hand of my father, and being taught in all the things that cause us to walk in the good way, — I was sent to the Madura Boarding School; there under the supervision of the honorable ladies, Chandler, Rendall, and Smith, for some years studying and improving, returned to Mandapasalai, where I was born and grew up. In 1869, by Taylor Iyar I was appointed teacher to the girls' boarding-school. The honorable Taylor Ammarl (Miss Taylor) supervises this school. Although there is a boys' school in this place, the two study as one school; and the lessons are conducted in common. There are twenty-one scholars in the boys' school; in the girls' school, twenty-one; as day-scholars, three boys: total, forty-five children study. Taylor Ammarl the teacher, and I, teach them. At the appointed time, each class is sent in regular order to recite their lessons to their respective teachers; and daily morning and evening prayer-meetings are regularly observed among the children. Many children, having studied and greatly improved, have gone. The school-children, in true piety, in virtue, in things that pertain to civilization, in purity, and in learning, are growing day by day. They sing the wise songs (hymns) and lyrics well. There is much better order than there used to be before the school was established.

Each day they have study for five hours, and practise sewing for one hour. They are mostly the children of teachers and catechists. Last year the boys and girls in giving examination, two hundred and seven rupees (rupee, fifty cents) from the government gift obtained.

In this place, a heathen girl who studied, becoming a Christian, although her heathen parents and relatives, and her own husband, greatly persecuted her, Jesus the Saviour not forsaking, she held fast. Their vain things to, she not consenting, wheresoever a Christian meeting be, there she will go.

The women who said, "Although women study, what is the use?" now try to have their children learn; and they are gradually learning.

In 1868, by Taylor Iyar, I was married. My husband, from an early age, studied in Tinnevely. Now in this place, under the hand of the honorable Howland, missionary, catechist's work he looks after. I have three children. Of them, one is a boy and two are girls. Them, in the nurture of the Lord to bring up, we strive. For us all that you may pray, I humbly entreat.

To you all I humbly my salaam say.

To this your humble child,

A. MARTHA.

ARRIVAL.

MISS CYRENE O. VAN DUZEE, of Erzroom, Eastern Turkey, arrived in Boston, Oct. 26, after a prosperous journey of seven weeks. Her friends and the friends of Erzroom will be glad to know that her health is improving.

Home Department.

OUR ANNUAL MEETING.

MRS. S. J. HUMPHREY.

It was a fore-ordaining Providence, we think, that brought the eighth annual gathering of the Woman's Board of Missions of the Interior to Chicago at such a time as this, when the very atmosphere is full of prayer. Under the sacred shade of this revival presence, the meeting from the first took a tone of unusual depth. The attendance of delegates was from a greater extent of country than on any preceding meeting. One hundred and seventy ladies, from nine of the interior States, found a glad welcome in Chicago homes. Though the Indian summer suddenly disappeared, the depressing influence of the two dripping days of the meeting was neutralized by the unbounded hospitality of the Union Park ladies, who, in their tastefully-decked church parlors, furnished the noon meal each day, not only to the delegates, but to the large

number in attendance from the city and suburbs. Our warm thanks are due to them for their patient labor of love, and for the choice opportunity it gave for social converse.

THE TREASURY.

The opening devotional exercises, conducted by Mrs. Moses Smith, the President, led to the business of the day; and Mrs. Bradley soon let us feel the pulse of the work in her treasurer's report. Colorado, Dakota, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Ohio, Wisconsin, and the Pacific slope, had each a share in the total of \$23,640,—two thousand dollars advance on last year, yet not equal to the hopes or pledges of the Board.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Of the secretary's report by Miss Pollock, but a mere abstract can be given. Six State branches now exist. There are more than one hundred new auxiliaries, 524 in all; yet two-thirds of our interior churches have yet to learn the joy of this work. Our Pacific sister now goes alone, and we congratulate her with a voice the more tender for the years of our walking hand in hand. For centennial work, we build a Health Retreat in Mardin, establish a Christian newspaper in Japan, and help ten of those missionary children, sent home to be our wards, who are now at school in America. "Life and Light" goes here and there among us with greatly improved contents; but there is a needed reproof in its story of one thousand Western delinquents.

HOW THE GOOD WORK GOES FORWARD.

Our twenty-five missionary sisters have been doing good service abroad. In Zulu Land, Africa, Miss Lindley leaves us for Livingstonia; while Miss Pinkerton at Umzumbi, and Miss Day at Amanzimtote, stirred with a great longing for souls, add to their school work the searching of the highways and byways, or the singing of the Sankey and Bliss gospel songs in the lowly kraals. From European Turkey our war-exiled Samokov sisters, Mrs. Mumford and Miss Maltbie, are with us to-day, to tell of the conversion of all their pupils. Miss Patrick, late of Erzroom, is living her quiet, busy life in the Constantinople Home. The Manissa teachers are steadily building up from the foundation in divers languages, and Miss Parsons labors in the Bardesag boarding-school. It has been a busy year for Mrs. Coffing and Miss Spencer, superin-

tending the ten Marash schools, the boarding department, and the great work among the women of the city and out-stations. Aintab has given abundant work to Misses Hollister and Shattuck, with its seminary, its translations, and its thrilling revival scenes, through the whole cholera-stricken city. At Harpoot, and in many other places, we have pupils or Bible-readers. The helper sent to Miss Van Duzee, at Erzroom, came too late to save her strength from breaking, and she is on her way hither. In India, we claim for ours Miss Anderson of Ahmednuggur, and Misses Taylor and Rendall of the Madura mission. Miss Hillis, of Ceylon, is doing noble work alone, yet writes, "I do not know how I could be happier." The "long patience" of the China missionaries is bearing fruit. Miss Evans in Tung Cho, Miss Diamant in Kalgan, and Miss Chapin in Pekin, are laboring with brighter hope, while our sympathy is stirred that Miss Porter must rest when she longs to do harvest work. Mrs. Watkins, of Mexico, is ill; but the work is purified and prosperous. The angel of the Lord has encamped round about the Dakota missionaries, not suffering them even to fear. Mrs. Curtis has gone into Government employ, to labor still for Dakota girls. At Fort Sully, Misses Collins and Whipple, making merry over difficulties, have entered into hard work, using each new Dakota word as soon as learned. Our two recruits of last March are in Japan. Miss Starkweather, in Kiyoto, writes, "On the threshold of our privileges, we are altogether to be envied;" and Miss Dudley, from her outlook in the Kobe Home, exclaims, "Such waiting harvests!" Sustain by prayer these missionaries, living under the continual pressure of success, as well as those who in solitary stations must fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ; and, when they falter, keep the ranks full."

FUTURE DEMANDS.

This is the field, and this the expenditure. What for the coming year? There is a deficit to be made up in our regular work, and two months remain for the Centennial Fund; will \$600 more come in for that before the '76 of this generation shall close? Dr. Clark writes from Boston that the same appropriations as last year will hold the ground. But what of the places suffering for more help? Ten more ladies are wanted at once. Micronesia has long been asking for two; one is wanted in Monterey, and one in the Japan Home; Van calls for one, and Marsovan for another; and another still is needed in Aleppo, Turkey; Madura must

have more help; and two (with medical education, if possible) are required in North China.

We quote from the letter: "I need not repeat our sense of indebtedness to your Board for the very valuable assistance rendered. I beg you to accept for yourselves, and for the ladies connected with your Board, the assurance of our lively appreciation of this service. We rejoice in the work you are doing, and accept gladly your wisdom and your experience as to the best method of conducting it. We beg you to rest assured of our confidence in methods of administration so fruitful in the best results. We leave local details entirely to your best judgment."

STATE BRANCHES.

The auxiliaries were reported by States. Miss Metcalf brought in person the record of Ohio. Such increased efficiency has developed in their thoroughly organized work that their ninety-four auxiliaries sent last year \$4,168. "The greater part of this," she said, "has come from our *large* little ones, from those who pinch themselves to give. In this age of noble conceptions, of great moral convictions, it is a comely thing for Christians to confer together, not merely concerning the things of *our church*, but also of the grander work of the whole world." Michigan is still doing nobly. Mrs. Hubbell said, "Our eighty-two auxiliaries and twelve mission-circles embrace more than one-fourth the female membership of our churches. Many auxiliaries in home mission churches have proved a great help and blessing to the pastors; and, in fact, the contributions from the small churches have exceeded *in amount* those from the larger ones.

Mrs. Farwell's report came from where "the dear Lord still tries us as though he meant to make something of Nebraska." Mrs. Coburn told of Wisconsin and its systematic organization, by which they hoped to reach every church. Mrs. Hanson wrote of Minnesota's twenty-one auxiliaries supplementing their mites with their prayers. From Dakota came word of vigorous frontier auxiliaries, with foreign missionaries at hand, to give zest to their meetings. Indiana is making advances; and Iowa's great work for the past year was related by Mrs. Prof. Parker. Mrs. Talcott wrote of eight new societies organized in Northern Illinois; and Mrs. Prof. Clapp, of increased numbers but falling contributions in the Southern section. Mrs. Scales brought from St. Louis the letter of Mrs. D. C. Young, telling of eleven auxiliaries and \$538 in that State of ninety per cent home mission churches.

DISCUSSIONS.

From these reports a discussion on methods of work naturally arose, bringing out the power gained by organized subdivisions into State branches, with vice-presidents and assistants in each conference. Mrs. Ely of Elyria, O., said the ministers had told of marked increase in the spirituality of their churches since the women commenced this work. Presidents must be efficient, not only to breathe the breath of life into the auxiliaries, but to *keep them breathing*.

"I find no way to succeed," said Mrs. Bruske, "without hard work." (She had done the hard work, and had succeeded.) "No hard work at all," said Mrs. Eddy of Detroit, who had done noble service in the Eastern Conference: "it is continual but joyful work."

The question, Shall we divide with other objects the funds collected in our mission-circles? brought out the proof, from experience, that so much will not be raised by one organization as by two. Often the one dollar that would satisfy the conscience at one time would be two dollars if the box came twice. Then for home work there are a great many societies. Home missions with workers in every sewing-circle, tracts, the Bible, temperance, church extension, education, have each a separate society; while all these, in their operations abroad, are included under the one name, foreign missions. Thus any just comparison would place the *aggregate* of receipts for these various causes over against the one collection for foreign work.

What part have children in our Lord's last command? was the most important discussion of all. "Our main efforts are for them," said Mrs. Hoge of the Presbyterian Board; "for the shadows are lengthening, and what will these do when we leave?" "The little ones are more ready to be organized than you are to lead them," said Mrs. Palmer of Colorado; and gave her plan of work, — five cents admission fee, and five cents earned each month by the little ones, supplemented by a fair, where a tiny girl brought one hundred pounds of potatoes that she had picked up on her father's ranch, and a little boy, advertising his missionary chicken as the great American eagle, sold it for one dollar. Mrs. Blatchford sent from her sickroom the constitution and history of a mission band; and others spoke of the opportunity they gave children in their meetings to express their religious feelings in little talks and prayers.

CORRESPONDING SOCIETIES.

Such a gathering belongs not merely to the participants. The eyes of other like bodies look to it; and the hands of greeting stretched out are not for ceremony merely, but for needful communication as concerning giving and receiving. Helpful letters reached us from the Boston Board, and those successful branches at the East, New Haven, Vermont, and Philadelphia.

The God-speed of other societies came in the persons of Mrs. Harris of the Baptist Board, and Mrs. Hitt of the Methodist, who since coming had "perceived the dawnings of the millennial day, when we shall see eye to eye." Said Mrs. Hoge of the Presbyterian Board, "I am part of you, and you can't get rid of me. There is between us only the provocation to good works. Harriet Newell's brother said to me, that, when she went to India, there was a feeling through all the churches that it was an unwomanly thing to thrust herself among heathen. What if we had all sat still lest we should do something unwomanly, waiting like that Scotch minister, till God should convert the world in his own time? The hearty co-operation and efficient seconding of the ministers is a great cause of our success. One distinguished pastor, not far from here, said at the first that he should keep his eye on the women, and, if they were going too far, he should put his hand on them. He says now, if he were called to state the most promising thing in the Presbyterian Church, it would be the Woman's Boards."

ESSAYS.

There is no room to speak of Mrs. Purington's admirable paper on "The Literature of Missions," where fresh wit enlivened the surprisingly full record of missionary publications; nor of Mrs. Parker's inspiring essay on "The Perseverance of the Saints" (household saints) in their missionary zeal. It is hoped they will be published.

MISSIONARIES.

We cannot convey in words the thrill it gave to take the returned missionaries by the hand, and hear them speak of recent perils and gospel triumphs. Mrs. S. R. Riggs told of eight hundred red men lately encamped for Christian worship, where five hundred Indian communicants sat with their white teachers so near the bloody war-path; and a fresh letter from Miss Collins described the going to that meeting of Mr. Thomas Riggs with three ladies and the baby, a round of eight hundred miles, carrying food

and tent; sometimes riding far into the night to find water, sometimes sleeping in the mud and rain, but always merry through mishaps. The letter closed with perfect trust in the Lord, though the savages had come very near killing the Episcopal missionary only a few miles from their home.

Mrs. Hinman told of months in the African mission, when to pass a bed was a temptation, so weary were they, and of the missionary wife whose heart was breaking for her baby in America, and her baby in heaven.

Miss Maltbie, fresh from the seat of the Eastern war, said, "The provinces are even more oppressed than you think." A letter that day received by her from one whose premises the Bashi Bazouks had invaded while the husband had been carried away in chains, told that, though ill, the writer was full of the Lord's work, and her husband was glad of the chance to preach to his fellow-prisoners. Their Samokov school is not likely soon to exclude the Bible. It is taught in every class. Katrinka, the worker whose name we have learned to love, was brought out of a long groping in the Catholic faith by the same verse on which Mr. Moody plants his feet, — "He that believeth *hath* everlasting life."

"Are all Americans Christians?" the people ask. "No." — "Why not?" We cannot answer. "Why don't they send the gospel to all of us? Why not send enough to convert the world?"

"Revivals go in the air in a divine electricity," said Mrs. Mumford, quoting from Pres. Finney. "I feel that influence here, I felt it at Samokov;" and she gave us a clear picture of the coming-on of that penumbra of the Spirit's power and of the overwhelming influence that brought every pupil to the Saviour.

The prayer hour closed each morning session. In the hushed sanctuary the Lord drew very near, as an elect sister or a mother in Israel gave voice to our petitions in the clear utterances of deep, suppressed emotion. "Pray for the missionaries," said Miss Ellis of Grinnell College, "as you pray for your own souls. I have looked on their trials in their own homes. Do not forget them any day in your whole lives henceforth." "Devote your whole selves," said one and another. "Consecrate your purse." "Be faithful in that which is least, — your money, — if you would receive the greatest, the Holy Spirit." With many petitions for our sisters, and expressions of self-consecration, were blended pleadings for the great city meetings with their hungry ones, and for Mr. Moody, the illness of whose child had kept him from an appointed service

with us. The work of saving souls is all one; and it is a delight to be praying for the conversion of the world in this city, now the focus of prayer from so many parts of the earth.

The services came to a close with these impressive words of the president: "Every one is going home to do God's work. If you do that you will do missionary work. The time is short. Be courageous. Let not little things prevent you." — *The Advance*.

RECEIPTS OF THE WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE INTERIOR.

FROM OCT. 15 TO NOV. 15, 1876.

MRS. FRANCIS BRADLEY, TREASURER.

OHIO BRANCH.

Mrs. M. B. Monroe, Akron, Treas.	
Cleveland.—Plymouth Ch., Aux.,	
of wh. \$5 are cent. offerings,	
\$39; Heights, Aux., \$35,	\$74 00
Cuyahoga Falls.—Aux.,	25 00
Geneva.—Aux., for Samokov	
school,	21 00
Hudson.—Aux., for teacher in	
Madura mission,	12 20
Huntington.—Aux.,	6 60
Kent.—Aux.,	15 00
Lodi.—Aux.,	8 15
Madison.—Aux.,	32 72
Medina.—Aux., of wh. \$32.50	
is a cent. offering; the re-	
mainder for Bible-reader in	
Mastratta mission,	62 50
Mt. Vernon.—Aux.,	10 15
Oxford Sem.—Miss Emily Jes-	
sup and Miss Helen Peabody,	12 00
Ravenna.—Aux., for Kobe Home,	13 00
Ridgeville.—Aux., for Miss	
Maltbie's salary,	12 80
Sheffield.—Aux., for Miss Malt-	
bie's salary,	10 00
Steubenville.—Aux.,	26 10
Tallmadge.—Aux.,	15 00
Toledo.—A friend,	5 00
Wadsworth.—Aux.,	8 50
Wellington.—Aux.,	22 00
Total,	\$391 12

MICHIGAN.

Adrian.—Town Ch., Aux., \$6.50;	
Mrs. Comstock for centennial	
fund, \$2,	\$8 50
Almont.—Aux., for Miss Pinker-	
ton's salary,	5 50
Ann Arbor.—Aux., wh. const.	
Mrs. J. Austin Scott, L.M.,	39 65
Armada.—Aux., for Miss Pink-	
erton's salary,	10 00
Canandaigua.—Aux., of wh. \$3	
are centennial offerings,	7 00

Charlotte.—Aux., of wh. \$3 are	
for centennial fund,	\$17 57
Dundee.—Aux.,	9 25
Eaton Rapids.—Aux., for Miss	
Spencer's salary,	10 00
Flint.—Aux.,	18 25
Grand Rapids.—Aux., for cen-	
tennial fund,	17 00
Jerome.—Aux., for centennial	
fund,	3 00
Kalamo.—Aux.,	12 10
Litchfield.—Aux., for missionary	
children,	12 25
London.—Aux.,	3 50
Morenci.—Aux., of wh. \$5.25 is	
for centennial fund,	12 00
New Haven.—Aux., for Miss	
Pinkerton,	15 00
Port Huron.—Aux., for Miss	
Pinkerton,	5 00
Prattsfield.—Aux.,	5 00
Romeo.—Aux., for Miss Pinker-	
ton,	4 00
Royal Oak.—Aux., centennial	
offering,	6 00
Somerset.—Aux., centennial of-	
ferings,	3 00
Wayne.—Aux., \$3; Young Lad-	
ies' Miss. Soc., \$5; all for Miss	
Pinkerton's salary,	8 00
Total,	\$231 57

ILLINOIS.

Alton.—Church of the Redeem-	
er, Aux.,	\$10 40
Ashkum.—Aux.,	1 75
Blue Island.—Aux.,	6 60
Chesterfield.—Aux., of wh. \$1 is	
centennial offering,	7 50
Chicago.—1st Ch., Aux., for Miss	
Patrick, including \$10 from	
Mrs. C. F. Gates to complete	
her own L. M.-ship, \$43.40;	
New Eng. Ch., Aux., for Miss	
Chapin, \$80.55; centennial of-	
fering for Health Retreat, \$5,	123 95

<i>Clifton.</i> —Aux.,	\$3 00
<i>Elgin.</i> —Aux., of wh. \$10 is for missionary children, the remainder for salary of Miss Dudley, \$43.29; Young Ladies Missionary Soc. for Fugi of Japan, \$20,	63 29
<i>Evanston.</i> —Aux., for Miss Porter,	38 25
<i>Forest.</i> —Aux.,	3 50
<i>Fremont.</i> —Aux., of wh. \$1 is a centennial offering,	5 76
<i>Geneva.</i> —Aux.,	8 50
<i>Glencoe.</i> —Aux., of wh. \$5 is from A.W.B.,	6 50
<i>Granville.</i> —Aux.,	12 00
<i>Jacksonville.</i> —Aux., for salary of Miss Evans,	77 00
<i>Oak Park.</i> —Aux., of wh. \$4 is for Japan newspaper; remainder for Manissa school,	23 55
<i>Payson.</i> —Aux., of wh. \$1 is for centennial fund, \$8; sale of articles contributed by Mrs. Faith Ann Spencer, \$5,	13 00
<i>Peru.</i> —Aux., of wh. \$1 is centennial offering,	8 89
<i>Quincy.</i> —Aux., for Miss Evans,	21 35
<i>Springfield.</i> —Aux., for Miss Evans and with prev. cont. to const. Mrs. Elvira G. Dean, Mrs. J. B. D. Salter, and Mrs. Ezra Dickerman L. M's,	50 00
<i>Wauaponsee Grove.</i> —Aux.,	10 00
Total,	\$499 79

WISCONSIN.

<i>Appleton.</i> —Aux.,	\$23 00
<i>Burlington.</i> —Aux.,	3 00
<i>Ft. Atkinson.</i> —Aux.,	5 50
<i>Geneva Lake.</i> —Aux.,	45 00
<i>Janesville.</i> —Aux., for centennial fund, \$10; remainder to const. Mrs. S. W. Lee L.M.,	35 00
<i>Koshkonong.</i> —Aux., for Miss Taylor's salary,	7 00
<i>La Crosse.</i> —Aux.,	14 00
<i>Lancaster.</i> —Aux.,	10 60
<i>Milton.</i> —Aux., for Miss Taylor,	15 00
<i>Platteville.</i> —Aux., of wh. \$18 is for centennial work, remainder for salary of Miss Taylor,	62 00
<i>Racine.</i> —Aux., for Health Retreat, \$1.85; remainder for Manissa school,	41 73
<i>Whitewater.</i> —Aux., for Miss Taylor's salary, \$21.85; remainder from S. S. class for centennial fund,	26 85
Total,	\$288 68

IOWA.

<i>Blairstown.</i> —A friend, as cent. offering,	\$1 00
<i>Carroll.</i> —Mrs. A. M. Palmer for centennial work,	19 00
<i>Davenport.</i> —Aux., for Miss Day's salary,	18 00
<i>Des Moines.</i> —Plymouth Ch., Aux., for Health Retreat, \$20;	

for missionary children, \$20;	
Japan newspaper, \$10,	\$50 00
<i>Dubuque.</i> —Aux., of wh. from Sunday school for Japan Home, and to const. Mrs. J. L. Dickinson L. M., \$25,	54 00
<i>Grinnell.</i> —Mite Gatherers,	5 00
<i>Monticello.</i> —Aux., wh. with prev. cont. const. Miss Emily M. Smith L. M.,	19 00
<i>New Hampton.</i> —Aux.,	1 60
<i>Osage.</i> —Aux., centennial offering,	1 00
<i>Oskaloosa.</i> —Aux., wh. const. Mrs. Mary Nichols L. M.,	25 00
<i>Waterloo.</i> —Aux., of wh. \$50 is from Mrs. O. C. Miller for Bible-reader in Turkey,	81 00
Total,	\$265 00

MINNESOTA.

<i>Clearwater.</i> —Aux., for Miss Barrows' outfit, \$14.50; for miss'y children, \$5.50,	\$20 00
Total,	\$20 00

MISSOURI BRANCH.

Mrs. J. H. Drew, St. Louis, Treas.	
<i>Breckenridge.</i> —Aux.,	\$5 00
<i>Memphis.</i> —“The Gleaners” for Bridgman school,	10 00
<i>Potosi.</i> —Miss Cook,	1 50
<i>St. Louis.</i> —Centennial offerings by Mrs. Edgell, \$20; 1st Cong. Ch., T. E. G. Stoddard, \$15; Pilgrim Ch., Aux., \$20,	55 00
Total,	\$71 50

KANSAS.

<i>Atchison.</i> —Mrs. Wilson,	\$5 00
Total,	\$5 00

NEBRASKA.

<i>Columbus.</i> —Aux., for centennial fund,	\$5 00
<i>Greenwood.</i> —Mrs. C. A. Mathis,	1 00
<i>Weeping Water.</i> —Aux.,	10 00
Total,	\$16 00

DAKOTA.

<i>Sioux Falls.</i> —Aux.,	\$2 50
Total,	\$2 50

MISCELLANEOUS.

Contributions for centennial fund received at annual meeting, and not otherwise acknowledged,	\$91 70
Sale of “Crosses” contributed by Miss Williams of Chicago,	2 00
Sale of Pamphlets,	3 13
“Missionary Bank,”	50
Total,	\$97 33
Total,	\$1,889 09

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